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RUTLAND COUNTY COUNCIL

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HEALTH COMMITTEE

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ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR
1955

A.D. WHITELAW, M.A., M.D., L.P.H.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1955

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of Administrative County (in acres)	97,273
Population (Registrar General's Estimate 1955)	21,440
Rateable Value	£130,070
Product of a Penny Rate	£524

Vital Statistics

Births	M	F	Total
Live births	183	156	339
Legitimate	177	147	324
Illegitimate	6	9	15
Stillbirths	3	2	5
Deaths			
Total	123	120	243
Infant Deaths			
Total	4	5	9
Legitimate	4	5	9
Illegitimate	-	-	-

	Rutland	England & Wales
Birth rate per 1000 population	17.2	15
Death rate per 1000 population	10.0	11.7
Infantile mortality rate per 1000 births	26.5	24.9
Stillbirth rate per 1000 live and stillbirths	15.4	23.1

CANCER DEATH RATE PER 1000 POPULATION

Cancer of Lung and Bronchus	0.37	0.38
Other Cancer	1.25	1.66

	0-		1-		5-		15-		25-		45-		65-		75-		All ages		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Tuberculosis, Respiratory																			-
Syphilitic Disease											1						1	-	1
Cancer of Stomach									1		1		2		1	1	5	1	6
Cancer of Lung & Bronchus									1		4		2		1		8	-	8
Cancer of Breast										1								1	1
Cancer of Uterus												1		1				2	2
Cancer of all other sites					1			1			2	3	3	3	2	3	8	10	18
Diabetes														2	1		1	2	3
Vascular lesions of the nervous system									-	1		2	3	3	11	18	14	24	38
Coronary Disease, angina											4		5	3	2	7	11	10	21
Hypertension with Heart Disease														2	1		1	2	3
Other Heart Disease											3	2	4	1	19	24	26	27	53
Other circulatory disease												1	4		7	9	11	10	21
Totals	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	2	2	15	9	23	15	45	62	86	89	175

CAUSES OF DEATH - 1955 (contd.)

	0-		1-		5-		15-		25-		45-		65-		75-		All ages		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
B/fwd.					1			1	2	2	15	9	23	15	45	62	86	89	175
Influenza												1		1	2		2	2	4
Pneumonia											2		1	1	2	-	5	1	6
Bronchitis		1									1			2	3	2	4	5	9
Other diseases of the respiratory system									1			1					1	1	2
Ulcer of the stomach & duodenum												2	1	1	2	1	3	4	7
Gastritis, enteritis & diarrhoea												1					-	1	1
Nephritis & nephrosis															1		1	-	1
Hyperplasia of prostate															2		2	-	2
Congenital malformations	1																1	-	1
Other defined & ill defined diseases	3	4									2	1	1	3	5	7	11	15	26
Motor vehicle accidents									3								3	-	3
All other accidents							2				1				1	2	4	2	6
Suicide																	-	-	-
Total, all causes	4	5	-	-	1	-	2	1	6	2	21	15	26	23	63	74	123	120	243

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Notification of Infectious Diseases

Disease	Oakham U.D.	Oakham R.D.	Uppingham R.D.	Ketton R.D.	Total
Scarlet Fever	-	4	8	5	17
Whooping Cough	2	13	6	21	42
Poliomyelitis Paralytic	1	-	-	-	1
Poliomyelitis, Non Paralytic	-	-	-	1	1
Measles	15	23	7	10	55
Acute Pneumonia	-	5	3	2	10
Dysentery (Sonne)	44	18	18	-	80
Erysipelas	1	-	-	-	1
Menigococcal Infection	-	1	-	-	1
Food Poisoning	-	1	-	-	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	-	-	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-
Total	64	65	42	39	210

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Vaccination

Number of persons vaccinated (or re-vaccinated) during the year 1955						
Age at date of vaccination	Under 1	1	2 - 4	5 - 14	15 & over	Total
Number vaccinated	19	50	9	5	10	93
Number re-vaccinated	-	-	-	3	24	27

All vaccinations were done by general practitioners

ccination and Immunisation (cont)

pitheria Immunisation

	Number of Children who completed a full course of primary immunisation and number of children who received a secondary (reinforcing) injection during the year 1955.			
	Age at date of final injection			
	Under 1	1 - 4	5 - 14	Total
ull course	12	150	83	245
einforcing	-	-	240	240

Approximately half of the primary immunisations were done at the nfant Welfare Centres and Schools and the bulk of the reinforcing injections t the schools; the remainder were done at the doctors' surgeries.

Immunisation in Relation to Child Population

Number of children at 31st December, 1955, who had completed a course of immunisation at any time before that date (i.e. at any time since 1.1.41.).

Age at 31.12.55. i.e. Born in year	Under 1 1955	1-4 1954-1951	5-9 1950-1946	10-14 1945-1941	Under 15 Total
Last completed course of injections (whether primary or booster). A. 1951-1955	25	671	1049	933	2678
B. 1950 or earlier	-	-	455	726	1181
C. Estimated mid-year child population.	400	1440	3400		5200
Immunity Index	7%	27%	58%		51%

Whooping Cough Immunisation

Under 1 year	1 - 4 years	5 - 14 years
19	106	20

Most of the children recorded in the above table were immunised by general practitioners with combined diphtheria pertussis prophylactic.

Immunisations with whooping cough vaccine was also done at the County Welfare Centres during 1955.

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases

Age Groups	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F
Under 1	-	-	-	-
1 -	-	-	-	-
2 -	-	-	-	-
5 -	-	-	-	-
10 -	-	-	-	-
15 -	-	1	-	-
20 -	1	2	-	-
25 -	1	1	-	-
35 -	2	1	-	-
45 -	1	-	-	2
55 -	-	-	-	-
65 -	-	-	-	-
Totals	5	5	-	2

Inward transfers included in the above table:-

2 Pulmonary Cases, both females.

(1 in the group 25 - and the other in the group 35 -)

There were no deaths from tuberculosis during the year.

The Health Visitor paid 1153 visits of enquiry to the homes of notified cases of tuberculosis and arranged for examination of contacts by the Chest Physician and in many cases transporting them to the respective Chest Clinics at Stamford and Melton, and reported on home conditions. Cases considered to be inadequately housed are referred by the Health Committee to the Local Sanitary Authority with a recommendation for rehousing where possible. Nursing requisities, extra bedding and garden shelters aro provided when necessary: two shelters were on loan at the end of theyear.

On the recommendation of the Chest Physician one patient was sent to a Spero Home (maintained by the National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis) for one month, the cost being defrayed by the County Council.

The supply offree milk to 5 cases was continued during the year.

UBERCULOSIS (Contd.)

B.C.G. Vaccination of 9 contacts was carried out by the hest Physicians.

Domiciliary treatment of active cases of pulmonary tuberculosis consisting of P.A.S. and injections of Streptomycin) was given by the istrict Nurses in 6 instances.

MASS MINATURE X - RAY SURVEY

The Leicester Area Mass Radiography Unit (Sheffield Regional Hospital Board) visited Oakham and Uppingham in June.

	No. Attended	T.B. Active	T.B. Inactive	Bronchiectasis	Cardiac
General Public	911	1	5	3	3
Referred by Doctors	28	-	1	-	-
Secondary Schools	477	-	-	-	1
Corah's Factory	230	-	-	-	-
Oakham & Uppingham Schools	820	-	-	-	-
Total	2466	1	6	3	4

MEDICAL LOAN DEPOTS

(Section 28 N.H.S. Act.)

There are 40 Depots in villages in the County holding smaller items in most demand, these are maintained by the Rutland Branch of the British Red Cross Society under the supervision of the County Director (Mrs. C. Drage). Larger items such as wheel chairs, commodes, crutches, bed tables, etc., can be obtained through the village representatives from the Red Cross Office, 56, High Street, Oakham, or the County Health Department.

The County Director reports that there was a considerable increase in the number of requests for articles during the year, particularly from the aged sick. New wheel chairs were purchased to meet the increased demand.

DISTRIBUTION OF WELFARE FOODS

Distribution of Welfare Foods continued to run smoothly with the able assistance of the W.V.S., and several new distribution centres were opened during the year. Arrangements were made for beneficiaries on the County periphery to obtain supplies from more accessible centres situated outside Rutland.

The uptake figures were lowerthan the previous year owing to the temporary closing of the R.A.F. Station at Cottesmore and the transfer of the North Luffenham Station from the R.C.A.F., to the R.A.F. Neither the restriction of distribution times nor the sale of proprietary brands of baby foods at Infant Welfare Centres appears to have caused any serious drop in the uptake of Welfare Foods.

New distribution centres opened during the year were:-

Caldecott	2 - 00 (p.m.) - 4 - 30 (p.m.)	Thursdays
Manton	9 - 00 (a.m.) - 5 - 00 (p.m.)	Daily
North Luffenham (village)	2 - 00 (p.m.) - 6 - 00 (p.m.)	Mondays
South Luffenham	9 - 00 (a.m.) - 5 - 00 (p.m.)	Tuesdays

Distributions during the year were :-

D

National Dried Milk, full cream and half cream,	Tins.....	9393
Cod Liver Oil,	Bottles.....	1792
Vitamin A & D Tablets,	Packets.....	636
Orange Juice,	Bottles....	10504
	Total	22325

CARE OF MOTHERS & YOUNG CHILDREN

Infant Welfare Centres are held as follows:-

Oakham	2nd and 4th Wednesday	each month,		at 2.30p.m.
Uppingham	1st and 3rd Wednesday	"	"	" 2.30p.m.
Ketton	1st and 3rd Tuesday	"	"	" 2.30p.m.
Empingham	1st and 3rd Wednesday	"	"	" 2.30p.m.
Cottesmore Aerodrome	2nd and 4th Thursday	"	"	" 2.00p.m.
N. Luffenham Aerodrome	2nd and 4th Tuesday	"	"	" 2.30p.m.

Number of children who attended the above Centres during the year:-

Born in:-			
1955	1954	1953-50	Total number of children who attended during the year
171	142	77	390

Number of attendances during the year made by children who at the date of attendance were:-

Under 1 year	1 but under 2	2 but under 5	Total attendances
1338	370	239	1947

Care of Unmarried Mothers

The County Council contributed to the cost of maintenance of one unmarried mother (whose circumstances had been investigated by the Peterborough Diocesan Moral Welfare Worker) at St. Saviour's Diocesan Maternity Home, Northampton.

COUNTY NURSING SERVICE

(Sections 23 & 25 N.H.S. Act)

WORK OF THE VARIOUS DISTRICT NURSE/MIDWIVES

	Oakham	Uppingham		Luffenham	Ryhall	Langham	Market Overton	Total
	Miss Lewis ✱ ⊖ & Miss Langley ✱	North: Miss Anderson ✱ ⊖ & Miss Seymour. ✱	South: Miss Bird ✱ ⊖	Mrs Pearson ✱ ⊖	Miss Jackso· ✱	Miss Joyce ✱ ⊖	Mrs Carnachan ✱	
Cases								
Midwifery & Maternity	24	19	19	32	17	17	38	166
General	82	35	73	39	38	90	11	368
Visits								
Midwifery & Maternity	565	460	518	578	334	324	715	3494
General	1878	1073	1012	633	848	1253	387	7084
Other Visits	119	86	139	23	206	283	154	965
Ante-natal & Post-natal	154	156	258	275	178	167	350	1538
Attendances at I.W.C.	10	9	16	-	-	11	24	60
No. of times gas & air administered	23	20	18	27	14	12	24	138

All the district nurse/midwives have the S.C.M. certificate.

✱ S.R.N. ⊖ Queen's Nurse.

Miss Seymour commenced duty on 1st July, 1955

Pethidine

All the midwives were authorised to use pethidine. The drug was administered to 123 patients (in 4 cases when the doctor was present and 119 cases when the doctor was not present at the delivery of the child).

unty Nursing Service (contd.)

Miss D. Langley was appointed Nurse/Midwife for the Oakham istrict on 1st June following the resignation of Miss Lewis.

Miss D. Seymour was appointed Nurse/Midwife for the Uppingham North) district in the place of Miss Anderson; and commenced duty on 1st July.

An additional car (Ford Popular) was purchased for the use of he Uppingham (North) district nurse (previously the two Uppingham nurses had hared a car).

The District Nurse's house at Langham, previously rented, was ought by the County Council during the year.

One district nurse attended a refresher course for Home Nurses n September.

MIDWIFERY

(Section 23, N.H.S. Act.)

Domiciliary Midwifery

The Council's midwives attended 46% of the births, either in the patient's homes, The Home Hospital or the Station Sick Quarters of the Canadian Royal Air Force, North Luffenham. (36% of the births were home confinements).

Place of Birth Table

Domiciliary	121
Home Hospital, Oakham *	32
Rutland Memorial Hospital, Oakham	72
Stamford & Rutland Hospital, Stamford.	89
Melton Mowbray Infirmary	11
The Gables, Peterborough	3
Station Sick Quarters, R.C.A.F., North Luffenham	2
Leicester General Hospital	6
Others	6
Total	342

* The Home Hospital, Mill Street, Oakham, which has been carried on by Miss M.E. Green as a Maternity Home fora great number of years, closed on May 4th , 1955. Since 1948 the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board have had contractual beds in this nursing home; and the contract ended with the opening of the Maternity Wing at the Rutland Memorial Hospital, Oakham.

REGISTRATION OF NURSING HOMES

(Sections 187 to 194, Public Health Act, 1936)

	Number of Homes	Number of beds provided for		
		Maternity	Others	Totals
Homes first registered during the year	-	-	-	-
Homes on register at end of year.....	2	-	45	45

AMBULANCE SERVICE
(Section 27)

The total number of miles covered by the ambulances and cars during the year was 131893 miles an increase of just over 17000 on the previous year.

In March a new 7 seater Bedford Utilecon General Purpose Ambulance replaced the old Austin ambulance which had been in use for a number of years before its purchase from the British Red Cross Society in 1949.

The closure of Burley Hospital (for diabetics and convalescent patients) reduced the number of long distance journeys undertaken for other authorities in previous years.

Patients resident in the western half of the County invariably attend Leicester Royal Infirmary or the City General Hospital, Leicester, and patients resident in the eastern half of the County Stamford and Rutland Hospital, Stamford, Peterborough Memorial Hospital or for more specialised forms of treatment, to Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge. All the above hospitals have transport officers and their help, in co-ordinatin; appointment times etc., is greatly appreciated.

STATISTICS TABLE

Month	Patients carried.	Mileage
January	595	8,355
February	749	10,205
March	834	12,446
April	796	10,362
May	994	12,096
June	897	11,412
July	784	11,193
August	765	11,282
September	758	11,279
October	757	10,555
November	920	12,564
December	733	10,024
Totals	9,582	131,773

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

(Section 29, N.H.S. Act)

Domestic Help

The Home Help Service is under the direction of the County Organiser of the Women's Voluntary Services, who is assisted by a clerk who combines this work with W.V.S. clerical duties. Every request for a Home Help must be supported by a recommendation from a doctor, district nurse, hospital or other approved person; and each case is assessed according to a scale of allowances drawn up by the County Council. Except in urgent cases, assesment is always undertaken before the Home Help commences work.

Following consultation with the Regional Officer of the National Assistance Board and the Home Help Organiser it was decided that persons receiving additional assistance from the Board to meet Home Help commitments would not be required to make any payments for the service.

The type of cases using the Service followed a similar pattern as the previous year and there is ample evidence that the Home Helps are greatly appreciated.

There are five Home Helps:-

3 part time on a guaranteed week of 15 hours.
2 casual workers for cases in outlying districts.

Several other Home Helps were employed on a casual basis for outlying villages where transport difficulties made it impossible to send regular Home Helps.

Cases Table

Maternity	12
Geriatric	18
Others	12
Total	42

MENTAL HEALTH

Mr. S.S. Watson who has been Duly Authorised Officer since the inception of the National Health Service in 1948 (he was appointed Relieving Officer in 1930) retired because of ill health on 31st October, 1955. He has been succeeded as Duly Authorised Officer by Mr. E.B. Pearson

Lunacy Act, 1890.

The following is a summary of the cases dealt with during the year (4 under Section 20, 3 under Section 16 and 1 under Section 14)

Carlton Hayes Hospital			
Certified			
Admissions		Discharges	
M	F	M	F
2	5	1	-

The other case, a female, was certified under Section 14 and admitted to St. Andrews Hospital, Northampton.

Four patients died in Carlton Hayes Hospital (1 male and 3 females). All were certified cases.

Mental Treatment Act, 1930

The number of cases admitted to hospitals during the year was as follows:-

Carlton Hayes Hospital				Rauceby Mental Hospital							
Voluntary				Voluntary				Totals			
Admissions		Discharges		Admissions		Discharges		Admissions		Discharges	
M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
8	12	5	15	13	[illegible]	[illegible]	12	21	19	18	2[illegible]

There has again been a noticeable increase in the number of voluntary patients admitted to Mental Hospitals.

MENTAL DEFICIENCY ACTS, 1913 - 1948

The Health Visitors paid visits to mental defectives during ear.

	During 1955				Total cases on register, 1.1.56.			
	Under age 16		Aged 16 & over		Under age 16		Aged 16 & over	
Particul ars of cases reported during 1955	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
(a) Cases at 31st December ascertained to be defectives "subject to be dealt with".								
Action taken on reports by:-								
(i) Local Education Authorities on children								
(1) While at school or liable to attend school	1	1						
(2) On leaving special schools	1							
(3) On leaving ordinary schools								
(ii) Police or by Courts								
(iii) Other sources				1				
Total number of cases reported	2	1	-	1				
Disposal of cases								
O f the cases ascertained to be defectives "subject to be dealt with" number								
(i) Placed under Statutory Supervision	1	1			3	1	19	16
(ii) Placed under Guardianship							3	2
(iii) Taken to "Places of Safety"								2
(iv) Admitted to Hospitals	1			1	3	1	18	22
Total	2	1		1	6	2	40	42
Classification of Defectives in the Community								
(a) Cases included in item (i) to (iii) above in need of institutional care:-								
(1) In need of institutional care								
(i) "Cot & chair" cases								
(ii) Ambulant low grade cases								
(iii) Medium grade cases						1		
(iv) High grade cases								
(2) Not in urgent need of institutional care:-								
(i) "Cot & chair"cases					1		1	
(ii) Ambulant lowgrade cases							1	
(iii) Medium grade cases							2	
(iv) High grade cases								
Total					1	1	4	
Of the cases included in items (a) (i) to (iii), number considered suitable for:-								
(i) Occupation centre	1							2
(ii) Industrial centre								
(iii) Home Training								
Total	1							2

FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1938

Sampling was carried out by Mr. H. Tabberer, Sanitary Inspector to the Oakham Urban District Council (by arrangement with his Authority). The total number of samples taken during the year was 49.

Article	Number Examined	Number Unsatisfactory
Milk	17	-
Sausages , Pork	6	-
Sausages , Beef	3	-
Beer	7	-
Vinegar	1	-
Margarine	3	-
Margarine with 10% butter	3	-
Butter	1	-
Table Jelly	6	-
Lard	1	-
Orange Squash	1	-
Total	49	-

From the foregoing table it will be seen that all the samples submitted for examination during the period under review were found to be genuine.

The fat content of the milk samples ranged from 3.50 to 5.20 per cent and the content of milk solids other than milk fat ranged from 8.6 per cent to 9. 0 per cent.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS

Incidence of Blindness

The Royal Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Institution for the Blind have kindly supplied the following information.

During the year the Ophthalmic Surgeon saw 14 B.D.8 cases.

A. Follow-up of Registered Blind and Partially Sighted Persons

	Cause of Disability			
	Cataract	Glaucoma	Retrolental Fibroplasia	Others
(i) Number of cases registered during the year in respect of which para. 7(c) of Forms B.D.8. recommends:-				
(a) No treatment	3	1	-	3
(b) Treatment (medical surgical or optical)	6	-	-	1
(ii) Number of cases at (i)(b) above which on follow-up action have received treatment	4	-	-	1

B. Ophthalmia neonatorum

(i) Total number ofcases notified during the year	-
(ii) Number of Cases in which:-	
(a) Vision lost	-
(b) Vision impaired	-
(c) Treatment continuing at end of the year	-

RURAL WATER SUPPLIES AND SEWERAGE ACTS, 1944 - 1955...

The following schemes were approved by the County Council during the year.

Oakham Rural District.

Water supply scheme for the Parish of Tickencote.

The provision of a piped water supply to Ashwell, with a link main to Teigh; and a link between the Exton village scheme and the pumping main running from Clipsham Ford to Burley Water Tower for use in emergencies.

Piped water supplies for the villages of Hambleton and Whitwell.

Uppingham Rural District.

A water supply scheme to serve this Council's central area which embodies the purchase of the Uppingham Waterworks undertaking with extensions to Seaton, Glaston, Bisbrooke and Stoke Dry.

North Luffenham and District Water Scheme - Mains extension.

Ketton Rural District.

Water supply scheme for the Parish of Ketton.

Sewerage Schemes.

Sewerage Schemes forEgleton; Exton; Manton; Cottesmore and Greetham and Empingham in the Oakham Rural District and Ryhall in the Ketton Rural District.

3rd July, 1956.

A.D. Whitelaw

County Medical Officer of Health